

## *When to go to the Emergency Room*



**GO** to the Emergency Room...

**For serious health problems that  
can cause lasting injury or death.**

**When there is a real emergency, you  
should:**

- 1)** Call your personal doctor  
first or have someone call for  
you; then
- 2)** Go to the nearest emergency  
room; or
- 3)** Call 911

Your doctor must okay your visit to the  
emergency room or Medicaid may not  
pay for it.

## *When not to go to the Emergency Room*

Do **NOT** go to the Emergency Room...

- If you have a cold or any other health problem that your doctor can take care of in his or her office.



- If you are going to the emergency room because you can't get a ride to your doctor's office.

Call 1-800-204-3728 for help with a ride to your doctor's office.

**The only time you should go to the emergency room is when you have a real emergency.** If the problem is not a real emergency, you may have to pay for the ER visit.

If you are not sure what to do, call your doctor's office. Your Patient 1st personal doctor (or a qualified person chosen by your doctor) can be reached by telephone 24 hours a day, seven days a week.